



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Millington Company Wins Volunteer STAR Award** *Management and Employees Demonstrate Commitment to Workplace Safety*

**NASHVILLE**—The Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development awarded Osmose Inc. with the Volunteer STAR Award for workplace safety today at its Millington facility. The Volunteer STAR is patterned after the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and recognizes the best of the best in the area of safety and health programming and performance.

Qualified candidates must demonstrate that they have performed in a manner that is below the national average for injury and illness rates in their industrial classification. They must also have all of the critical safety and health management system components in place and involve their employees in a manner that ensures total involvement in safety and health issues.

“Both the management and employees of Osmose Inc. have demonstrated a consistent and long term dedication to creating a world class facility,” said Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health administrator John Winkler. “The site has seen consistent improvement to their injury and illness rates.”

Osmose Inc. is a manufacturer of wood preservatives. The site’s employees are meaningfully engaged in the safety and health management system. “*Safety sets the Pace* is the motto that drives all of our business decisions,” said Mike Haskins, Plant Manager. “We have an extremely dedicated group at our site who work together to make Osmose Millington a leader in safety as well as a world class supplier of wood treatment products.” Chris Laxton, environmental health & safety director, adds, “We challenged the Millington plant three years ago to meet the requirements of TOSHA STAR, and they have raised the safety bar to a whole

**(more)**

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new level. This group truly exemplifies how teamwork and dedication can result in an extremely safe and rewarding work environment.”

A certificate of recognition is awarded to the STAR recipient, as is a flag that can be flown at the site. The company is also permitted to use the Volunteer STAR logo on its correspondence and company documents. This recognition program includes an exemption from TOSHA Compliance programmed inspections for three years. This can be extended by successful continuation of the program requirements. Osmose Inc. is the 17<sup>th</sup> site in Tennessee to achieve Volunteer STAR status.

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